This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

detecting an attack by malicious code on a first computer system;

extracting a malicious code signature from said malicious code comprising:

locating a caller's address of said malicious code in a memory of said first computer system; and

extracting a specific number of bytes backwards from said caller's address;

creating an extracted malicious code packet including said malicious code signature; and

sending said extracted malicious code packet from said first computer system to a second computer system.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein prior to said sending, said method further comprising determining that said extracted malicious code packet is a new extracted malicious code packet.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein prior to said sending, said method further comprising determining that a maximum number of extracted malicious code packets have not been sent from said first computer system.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said extracted malicious code packet is sent from said first computer system to said second computer system on a secure channel.

5. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

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detecting an attack by malicious code on a first computer system;

creating an extracted malicious code packet including parameters associated with said malicious code, said parameters being selected from the group consisting of a caller's address of said malicious code in a memory of said first computer system, a name of a process in which said attack took place, ports connected to said process, service pack levels, operating system information, patch level information, and combinations thereof; and

sending said extracted malicious code packet from said first computer system to a second computer system.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 5 wherein prior to said sending, said method further comprising determining that said extracted malicious code packet is a new extracted malicious code packet.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 5 wherein prior to said sending, said method further comprising determining that a maximum number of extracted malicious code packets have not been sent from said first computer system.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 5 wherein said extracted malicious code packet is sent from said first computer system to said second computer system on a secure channel.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 5 further comprising determining whether said malicious code is sendable.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 9 wherein upon a determination that said malicious code is sendable, said method

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further comprising extracting said malicious code from a memory location.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 10 wherein said extracting comprises copying or cutting said malicious code from said memory location.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 10 further comprising appending said parameters to said malicious code after said extraction.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 9 wherein upon a determination that said malicious code is not sendable, said method further comprising extracting a snippet of said malicious code from a memory location.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 13 wherein said extracting comprises copying or cutting a portion of said malicious code from said memory location.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 13 further comprising appending said parameters to said snippet after said extraction.

16. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

receiving an extracted malicious code packet from a first computer system with a second computer system, said first computer system being a host computer system and said second computer system being a local analysis center computer system; and

determining whether an attack threshold has been exceeded based upon said extracted malicious code packet, wherein upon a determination that an attack threshold has been exceeded, said method further comprising delivering a signature update

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comprising a malicious code signature to an intrusion detection system.

17-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) The method of Claim ~~17~~ 16 further comprising determining that a maximum number of signature updates have not been sent prior to said delivering a signature update.

20. (Currently amended) The method of Claim ~~17~~ 16 further comprising creating said signature update.

21. (Original) The method of Claim 16 wherein said extracted malicious code packet includes a malicious code signature, and wherein upon a determination that said attack threshold has been exceeded, said method further comprising delivering said malicious code signature to a global analysis center.

22. (Original) The method of Claim 21 further comprising determining that a maximum number of malicious code signatures have not been sent prior to said delivering said malicious code signature.

23. (Original) The method of Claim 21 further comprising extracting said malicious code signature from said extracted malicious code packet.

24. (Original) The method of Claim 16 further comprising determining whether said extracted malicious code packet includes a malicious code signature, wherein upon a determination that said extracted malicious code packet does not include a malicious code signature, said method further

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comprising extracting a malicious code signature from said extracted malicious code packet.

25. (Original) The method of Claim 16 wherein upon a determination that said attack threshold has been exceeded, said method further comprising delivering said extracted malicious code packet to a global analysis center.

26. (Original) The method of Claim 25 further comprising determining that a maximum number of extracted malicious code packets have not been sent prior to said delivering said extracted malicious code packet.

27. (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:

an intrusion prevention application for detecting an attack by malicious code on a first computer system;

a host signature extraction application for extracting a malicious code signature from said malicious code comprising:

locating a caller's address of said malicious code in a memory of said first computer system; and

extracting a specific number of bytes backwards from said caller's address;

said host signature extraction application further for creating an extracted malicious code packet including said malicious code signature; and

said host signature extraction application further for sending said extracted malicious code packet from said first computer system to a second computer system.

28. (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:

an intrusion prevention application for detecting an attack by malicious code on a first computer system;

a host signature extraction application for creating an extracted malicious code packet including parameters associated

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with said malicious code, said parameters being selected from the group consisting of a caller's address of said malicious code in a memory of said first computer system, a name of a process in which said attack took place, ports connected to said process, service pack levels, operating system information, patch level information, and combinations thereof; and

said host signature extraction application further for sending said extracted malicious code packet from said first computer system to a second computer system.

29. (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:

a local analysis center signature extraction application for receiving an extracted malicious code packet from a first computer system with a second computer system, said first computer system being a host computer system and said second computer system being a local analysis center computer system; and

said local analysis center signature extraction application further for determining whether an attack threshold has been exceeded based upon said extracted malicious code packet, wherein upon a determination that an attack threshold has been exceeded, said method further comprising delivering a signature update comprising a malicious code signature to an intrusion detection system.

30. (New) The method of Claim 1 wherein the specific number of bytes is 32 bytes.

31. (New) The method of Claim 9 wherein said malicious code is sendable if a size of said malicious code is 8 KB or less.

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32. (New) The method of Claim 13 wherein said extracting a snippet comprises:

locating a caller's address of said malicious code; and

extracting a specific number of bytes above and below said caller's address.

33. (New) The method of Claim 32 wherein said extracting a specific number of bytes above and below said caller's address comprises extracting 4 KB above said caller's address and 4 KB below said caller's address.

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